

Larry Summers is a friend and an enormous talent, and I have great respect for President Obama and his team. But Congress is the constitutionally designated steward of taxpayer dollars. We should insist on the limitations in the Frank bill before releasing another \$350 billion.

I expect to support a robust and effective stimulus bill. I wish the second tranche of TARP had been totally revamped and added to the stimulus proposal.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RAYMOND
ORBACH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our country are exceptional. The United States has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make our Nation a better place to live and work. Dr. Raymond Orbach is one of these individuals. On January 23, 2009, Dr. Orbach's term serving as the first Under Secretary of the Office of Science at the U.S. Department of Energy will come to an end.

Dr. Orbach began his academic career as a postdoctoral fellow at Oxford University in 1960 and became an assistant professor of applied physics at Harvard University in 1961. He joined the faculty of the University of California, Los Angeles, UCLA, 2 years later as an associate professor and became a full professor in 1966. From 1982 to 1992, he served as the provost of the College of Letters and Science at UCLA.

From 1992 to 2002, Dr. Orbach served as chancellor of the University of California (UC), Riverside, located in the 44th Congressional District of California. Under his leadership, UC Riverside doubled in size, achieved national and international recognition in research, and led the University of California in diversity and educational opportunity. In addition to his administrative duties at UC Riverside, he sustained an active research program; worked with postdoctoral, graduate, and undergraduate students in his laboratory; and taught the freshman physics course each year. As the Distinguished Professor of Physics, Dr. Orbach set the highest standards for academic excellence.

Dr. Orbach was nominated by President Bush to serve as the first Under Secretary for Science at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) on December 13, 2005. He was confirmed unanimously by the U.S. Senate on May 26, 2006, and was sworn in by Secretary of Energy Samuel Bodman on June 1, 2006.

In his capacity as under secretary, Dr. Orbach's primary responsibility was to serve as chief scientist for DOE, providing advice to the Secretary of Energy on all scientific and technical programs in DOE. Serving as chief scientist within DOE, Dr. Orbach advised the Secretary of Energy on a variety of topics, including the annual assessment of the reliability and safety of the U.S. nuclear warhead stockpile, which is developed each year by the Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Energy for

the President of the United States. As Under Secretary for Science, he was responsible for the department's implementation of the administration's American Competitiveness Initiative to help drive continued U.S. economic growth. He also was responsible for leading the department's efforts to transfer technologies from DOE national laboratories and facilities to the global marketplace, serving as the department's technology transfer coordinator, in accordance with the Energy Policy Act, and was chair of the DOE Technology Transfer Policy Board, responsible for coordinating and implementing policies for the department's technology transfer activities.

Dr. Orbach's tireless passion for science has contributed immensely to the betterment of the Department of Energy and the United States of America. I am proud to call Dr. Orbach a fellow American and friend. I know that many people around the country are grateful for his service and salute him as he ends his term.

IN HONOR OF "CLUB"

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I have often said that women working together can accomplish great things. I rise this evening to pay tribute to such a group of women, born and raised in the depression in our favorite city, San Francisco, who have helped, consoled, networked, laughed, cried and raised their families together since meeting as schoolchildren some 70 years ago. This special group of ladies is known to themselves and in excess of 100 sons, daughters, grandchildren and great-grandchildren by the simple name: "Club."

The original eight members met as children in the Excelsior District. Marie Regalia (later Kennealy), Anne Desmond (Cordes), Ann Espinosa (Sanchez), Connie Slevin (Voreyer), Mary McBrady (Ghiorso) and Rose Damonte (Larsen) were students at Epiphany Catholic School and Grover Cleveland Elementary but played together at Crocker Amazon Park and remained together through High School and into adulthood.

Along the way, they picked up new members Irene and Janet Loretto, Gena O'Brien, Shirley Kennealy, Jeanne McKevitt, Barbara Dykstra, Elli Morris and Lori Carlin. The group has raised 58 children between them, trading used clothes, toys and baby furniture and providing moral, psychological and baby-sitting help long before modern innovations like the internet, self-help books and Oprah.

Madam Speaker, the women of "Club" represent the finest of America. Each has made a profound mark on her community—from serving on boards of charities, presiding over parish women's guilds, coaching and teaching young girls, and unselfishly passing on their hard-earned wisdom to anyone looking for guidance.

After graduating from high school in 1950, the women pledged to meet regularly to compare notes and ideas on how to navigate their rapidly changing world. Most are daughters of immigrants who were raised in the customs and traditions of "the old country" and were

now charged with charting their own course. For nearly six decades, they have stayed in constant touch, sharing lunches, laughs and the kind of camaraderie that comes only with a lifetime of mutual experiences. Together, they have celebrated births and weddings, grieved at funerals, offered support during divorces and other setbacks and lent a hand whenever any of them needed a lift. In addition, "Club" has held more than 100 showers for births, weddings and ordinations to the priesthood.

The families of these confident and outgoing women know all-too-well the far-reaching influence of "Club". Indeed, few important decisions are made without running it by the group and woe to the husband who does something foolish or insensitive enough to top the agenda at a monthly get-together.

Madam Speaker, you and I have both said that it is San Franciscans that make San Francisco such a special place. I can think of no greater example to illustrate this point than the vibrant, beautiful and passionate ladies known to all who have made their acquaintance as "Club."

THE ADVANCING ONE COMMUNITY
AWARD

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, today, Iowa State University will host its celebration of the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The Advancing One Community Award given in his name will recognize the laureates' commitment to an inclusive multicultural community and efforts to reduce injustice and inequity. Receiving this award will be Mary de Baca, who has never shied from that struggle.

Mary de Baca coordinates diversity programs for the world-renowned College of Agriculture at Iowa State University. She is the program and financial advisor to the George Washington Carver Internship Program. She is the faculty advisor to the Iowa State University chapter of Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (MANRRS). She has built that club into a national powerhouse: it has been National MANRRS Chapter of the Year three of the last four years. She has established linkages between Iowa State and historically Black land grant colleges, Hispanic serving institutions, and tribal colleges so that they can share faculty, laboratory equipment, and resources, and bring talented minority students into the academic pipeline. As a result, Iowa State is a leader in training minority graduate students and professors, although Iowa is not often thought of as the most diverse state in the Union.

Mary de Baca's commitment to diversity is in the long tradition of the University. This is, after all, the school which admitted George Washington Carver when no other school would allow him to study at all, much less achieve a PhD. This is the school whose football stadium is named after the man who integrated its sports teams in 1923, Jack Trice. Trice followed in Dr. Carver's footsteps. He came to Iowa to study agriculture so he could go South and help the community. But he

never got the chance; he was tragically killed on the football field by the opposing team.

Iowa State also took a chance on one of the few Latinos to receive a Doctorate in the 1950s, her late husband, Robert C. de Baca, who Mary de Baca met when he was a young professor of animal science. She joined him in postings abroad, where she did some of the first home economics studies on the lives of rural Latin American women. With him, she built up a renowned herd of Black Angus cattle on the farm where she still lives. In her own family life, Mary de Baca has done her part to increase the number of minority professionals: she is the proud mother of three children, doctor Monica, businesswoman Suzanna, and civil rights lawyer Luis, who is a valued member of our Judiciary Committee team.

Between college and graduate school, Mary de Baca returned home to Southern Indiana to teach high school home economics. As a young teacher, she stubbornly overrode the protests of white parents to ensure that African-Americans could participate in cheerleading, the homecoming court, and other extra-curricular activities. Vernon Jordan described the State at the time in this way: "Although Indiana is above the Mason-Dixon line, it has a tough history regarding race. For a time it had the largest and most active chapters of the Ku Klux Klan in the country. It was a mess in the 1920s and 1930s. When I was there in the 1950s, it wasn't exactly a racial utopia." But one can imagine the young Mary de Baca mentoring those students and helping them reach their potential without fanfare or drama, just as she does today.

As an educator for over 50 years, Mary de Baca has helped to move us toward the more inclusive and equal world for which Dr. King fought. I congratulate her on receiving this honor in his name from her students, her colleagues, and her University.

TARP REFORM AND ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 384) to reform the Troubled Assets Relief Program of the Secretary of the Treasury and ensure accountability under such Program, and for other purposes:

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 384, the TARP Reform and Accountability Act, which will ensure that TARP funding will be spent responsibly and transparently in an effort to get the economy back on track.

In order to stabilize our economy and get credit flowing again to families and small businesses, we need to fundamentally change the practices of the Troubled Assets Relief Program before the remaining \$350 billion streams into the marketplace. Unfortunately, the Bush Administration mismanaged the financial rescue funds approved in 2008 and failed to follow congressional intent when it came to executing the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act. The Bush administration

failed to address the foreclosures as the source of this crisis, and it did not effectively use TARP funds to restore our economy's flow of credit. Along with my constituents, I am deeply disappointed that the past administration did not adequately track how taxpayer money was spent to ensure that banks were using it for the intended purposes.

Congress must only move forward with the release of the remaining TARP funds if they are confident that these failures will be remedied. H.R. 384 amends the Troubled Assets Relief Program provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act by strengthening accountability, closing loopholes, and increasing transparency. This measure sets up a blueprint to carefully track and monitor all the TARP funds, including previous and future allocations. It requires Treasury to provide a minimum of \$40 billion on foreclosure mitigation to help homeowners address the mortgage crisis. H.R. 384 limits executive bonuses for firms participating in TARP and assists cities and other tax-exempt issuers in finding investors for their bonds. Under the direction of the Obama administration, I believe the TARP funding will adhere to these new transparency and accountability provisions, while also working to ensure that our taxpayers' needs are the top priority.

During this difficult economic crisis, we need to stand up for Rhode Island families looking to secure student loans, car loans, home loans or mortgage refinancing. We need to make sure that small business owners have access to the capital they need to make payroll or invest in their companies. And we need to stabilize the pensions and savings that our retirees are counting on. I believe this recovery plan is essential for Rhode Island families. H.R. 384 will bring us closer to the original intent of TARP—to help those most in need during these difficult times.

I want to thank my friend, Chairman FRANK, for his tireless work on this issue, and I encourage my colleagues to vote for this bill.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SHORT SEA SHIPPING ACT OF 2009 (H.R. 528)

HON. JOHN M. McHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, January 22, 2009

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, on January 14, 2009, I introduced H.R. 528, the Short Sea Shipping Act of 2009. This measure would provide the tax incentive necessary to increase the transportation of freight via coastal and inland waterways, which would have significant environmental and economic benefits.

Specifically, the Short Sea Shipping Act of 2009 would exempt from the Harbor Maintenance Tax, HMT, nonbulk commercial cargo that is loaded at a port in the United States mainland and unloaded at another port in the United States mainland after transport solely by coastal or river route or unloaded at a port in Canada located in the Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Seaway System.

Likewise, the bill's exemption would apply to nonbulk commercial cargo that is loaded at a port in Canada located in the Great Lakes Seaway System and unloaded at a port in the United States mainland. Of note, the bill de-

fines the Great Lakes Seaway System as the waterway between Duluth, Minnesota, and Nova Scotia and encompasses the five Great Lakes, their connecting channels, and the St. Lawrence River. In fact, this is the primary difference between my bill and legislation (H.R. 981) that I cosponsored in the 110th Congress. This change was made necessary by the progress made in the development of the proposed Melford International Terminal in Nova Scotia, which is projected to handle nearly 1.5 million 20 foot equivalent units, TEUs, annually by 2015.

The HMT is a levy that is imposed on the value of cargo that is imported to a port within the United States or that is transported between U.S. ports. The tax, which is assessed at a rate of 0.125 percent of the cargo value, including passengers, is assessed only once on cargo that is transported between one U.S. port and another, either at the point of departure or arrival but not both. However, cargo that is carried from a foreign port may be taxed twice, upon arrival at the initial U.S. port and again if transported to another U.S. port aboard a different vessel. Cargo that is transported along the inland waterways is subject to the Inland Waterways Fuel Tax instead of the HMT, but the Great Lakes are not considered part of the inland waterways system.

For too long, the imposition of the HMT has served as a barrier to the development of a robust United States short sea shipping industry. In fact, former Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters has stated that "the HMT is the most significant impediment under current law to the initiation of such services to Great Lakes ports" because the "avoidance of the HMT is a main motivation for shipping cargo from Canada to the United States by trucks instead of water."

By providing this exemption to the HMT, Congress can give cargo shippers an incentive to move cargo via marine. The increased viability of such a water transportation option would subsequently combat current highway congestion, a burgeoning problem facing our Nation's transportation infrastructure. The shift of cargo transportation from common domestic cargo routes to underutilized coastal and inland waterways would also improve the flow of commerce and reduce air pollution generated by ground transportation.

Additionally, by providing such an incentive to the enhancement of the short sea shipping industry, Congress has the opportunity to spur significant economic activity. Ships would have to be built and crews would have to be hired. In New York's 23rd Congressional District alone, which I am privileged to represent, illustrating just one example, the Port of Oswego would realize a significant expansion of traffic, resulting in millions of dollars in economic impact and the creation of dozens of jobs.

Madam Speaker, by enacting H.R. 528, the 111th Congress can eliminate roadblocks and promote the utilization of an efficient, economical, and sustainable means of cargo transportation, while addressing the growing need for reliable transportation alternatives and additional capacity. Accordingly, I ask my colleagues to work with me to enact this important measure.